

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
US Appln. No. 09/966,288
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q66472

REMARKS

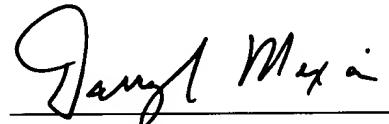
This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed on October 9, 2002, for the above-identified application.

Applicants elect Species I, and sub-species IA (Fig. 6B) without traverse. Claims 1-12 are readable on the Species I, and claims 1 and 7 are readable on the sub-species IA..

The new claim 38 is generic to claims 1-12 and therefore should be examined with the elected subspecies. Furthermore, if claim 38 is found to be allowable, then all of claims 1-12 should be examined in the subject application.

Applicants reserve the right to file Divisional Applications directed to non-elected species and subspecies. Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Darryl Mexic
Registration No. 23,063

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

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APPENDIX
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

1.(Amended) A heat exchanger according to claim 38, comprising:
~~a heating medium channel for passing a high temperature heating medium;~~
~~a fuel channel provided adjacent to the heating medium channel and separated from the heating medium channels through a partition wall, the fuel channels being supplied with liquid fuel from above the heating medium channels to vaporize the liquid fuel by heat exchange with the high temperature heating medium; and~~
~~a fuel supply plate provided above the heat medium channels, the fuel supply plate having a plurality of holes for passing the liquid fuel,~~

wherein a circumferential edge of a fuel-outflow-side opening portion of each of the plurality of holes is chamfered to form the avoiding portions.

2.(Amended) A heat exchanger according to claim 38, comprising:
~~a heating medium channel for passing a high temperature heating medium;~~
~~a fuel channel provided adjacent to the heating medium channel and separated from the heating medium channel through a partition wall, the fuel channels being supplied with liquid fuel from above the heating medium channel to vaporize the liquid fuel by heat exchange with the high temperature heating medium; and~~
~~a fuel supply plate provided above the heat medium channels, the fuel supply plate having a plurality of holes for passing the liquid fuel,~~

wherein a spot-face is formed in a circumferential edge of a fuel-outflow-side opening portion of each of the plurality of holes to form the avoiding portions.

3.(Amended) A heat exchanger according to claim 28, comprising:
~~a heating medium channels for passing a high temperature heating medium;~~
~~a fuel channel provided adjacent to the heating medium channel and separated from the heating medium channels through a partition wall respectively, the fuel channel being supplied with liquid fuel from above the heating medium channel to vaporize the liquid fuel by heat exchange with the high temperature heating medium; and~~
~~a fuel supply plate provided above the heat medium channel, the fuel supply plate having a plurality of holes for passing the liquid fuel,~~

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wherein a protrusion is provided on a fuel outflow side from the plurality of holes of the fuel supply plate to partition the plurality of holes to form the avoiding portions.

6.(Amended) A heat exchanger according to claim 38, comprising:

~~a heating medium channel for passing a high temperature heating medium;~~

~~a fuel channel provided adjacent to the heating medium channel and separated from the heating medium channels through a partition wall, the fuel channels being supplied with liquid fuel from above the heating medium channel to vaporize the liquid fuel by heat exchange with the high temperature heating medium; and~~

~~a fuel supply plate provided above the heat medium channel, the fuel supply plate having a plurality of holes for passing the liquid fuel,~~

wherein a groove is provided on a fuel outflow side from the plurality of holes of the fuel supply plate to partition the plurality of holes to form the avoiding portions.

Claim 38 is added as a new claim.

38. A heat exchanger comprising:

a heating medium channel for passing a high-temperature heating medium;

a fuel channel provided adjacent to the heating medium channel and

separated from the heating medium channels through a partition wall, the fuel channels being supplied with liquid fuel from above the heating medium channels to vaporize the liquid fuel by heat exchange with the high-temperature heating medium; a fuel supply plate provided above the heat medium channels, the fuel supply plate having a plurality of holes for passing the liquid fuel; and

avoiding portions for preventing the liquid fuel, which are flown out from the adjacent holes, from being mixed with each other.